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SENATE NETWORK

July 20, 1958

Round-up over the Mutual Broadcasting Network

(EXCERPTS)

QUEST: Senator Wayne Morse

QUEST: "Senator, I'd like to ask a peripheral question, and that is, as a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, have you any further information or judgment as to whether our intelligence was on top of what happened in Iraq?"

MORSE: "Our intelligence there, as it has been in many other parts of the world, is just plain lousy. They didn't know what was going on. Why our intelligence has missed the boat not only in Lebanon but in many other places of the world. I'm shocked at how bad our intelligence is, and we've got to do something to correct that. But what concerns me--"

QUEST: "What are you going to do?"

MORSE: "What's that?"

QUEST: "What are you going to do?"

MORSE: "Well, I think we're going to have to have a thorough overhauling apparently of CIA, and see to it that we can be kept informed. But I'm shocked about many things in connection with this. I'm shocked about the way the Congress is being treated by this administration in regard to this great national crisis. Leaders of the Congress were called down to the White House for a conference with the President the other day, but at no time in that conference we brought out in our hearing yesterday, did the President of the United States advise those leaders of Congress that he'd already ordered the troops on their way to the area of Lebanon. He didn't do it, they said yesterday, the final decision to land them, and he didn't even tell those men from Congress that he'd already ordered them on the way to the area of Lebanon. Now you've got to have, if you're going to have bipartisan foreign policy here, you've got to have free-lanced, forthright relationships between this administration and the Congress. And one of the things that concerns me is we're usually brought in after decisions are made in order to put a stamp of approval on them, when what we ought to get are the facts in advance and consultation in advance, and we didn't have it in the Lebanon situation."

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